

## **THREE-DIMENSIONAL UNSTEADY SIMULATION OF AERODYNAMICS AND HEAT TRANSFER IN A MODERN HIGH PRESSURE TURBINE STAGE**

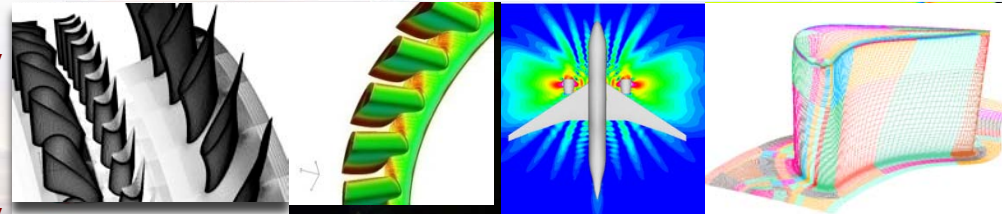
Unsteady 3-D RANS simulations have been performed on a highly loaded transonic turbine stage and results are compared to steady calculations as well as to experiment. A low Reynolds number  $k-\epsilon$  turbulence model is employed to provide closure for the RANS system. A phase-lag boundary condition is used in the tangential direction. This allows the unsteady simulation to be performed by using only one blade from each of the two rows. The objective of this work is to study the effect of unsteadiness on rotor heat transfer and to glean any insight into unsteady flow physics. The role of the stator wake passing on the pressure distribution at the leading edge is also studied. The simulated heat transfer and pressure results agreed favorably with experiment. The time-averaged heat transfer predicted by the unsteady simulation is higher than the heat transfer predicted by the steady simulation everywhere except at the leading edge. The shock structure formed due to stator-rotor interaction was analyzed. Heat transfer and pressure at the hub and casing were also studied. Thermal segregation was observed that leads to the heat transfer patterns predicted by steady and unsteady simulations to be different.



# Three-Dimensional Unsteady Simulation of Aerodynamics and Heat Transfer in a Modern High Pressure Turbine Stage

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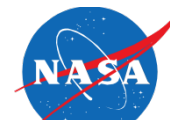
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Research Scientist  
NASA Glenn Research Center/ The Ohio State University



2009 Annual Meeting  
Fundamental Aeronautics Program  
Subsonic Fixed Wing Project  
September 29-October 1, 2009

# NASA Subsonic Transport System Level Metrics

.... technology for dramatically improving noise, emissions, & performance



| CORNERS OF THE TRADE SPACE          | N+1 (2015) <sup>***</sup><br>Technology Benefits<br>Relative to a<br>Single Aisle Reference<br>Configuration | N+2 (2020) <sup>***</sup><br>Technology Benefits<br>Relative to a<br>Large Twin Aisle Reference<br>Configuration | N+3 (2025) <sup>***</sup><br>Technology Benefits |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Noise<br>(cum below Stage 4)        | - 32 dB                                                                                                      | - 42 dB                                                                                                          | - 71 dB                                          |
| LTO NOx Emissions<br>(below CAEP 6) | -60%                                                                                                         | -75%                                                                                                             | better than -75%                                 |
| Performance:<br>Aircraft Fuel Burn  | -33% <sup>**</sup>                                                                                           | -40% <sup>**</sup>                                                                                               | better than -70%                                 |
| Performance:<br>Field Length        | -33%                                                                                                         | -50%                                                                                                             | exploit metroplex* concepts                      |

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Technology Readiness Level for key technologies = 4-6

<sup>\*\*</sup> Additional gains may be possible through operational improvements

<sup>\*</sup> Concepts that enable optimal use of runways at multiple airports within the metropolitan areas

## SFW Approach

- Conduct Discipline-based Foundational Research
- Investigate Advanced Multi-Discipline Based Concepts and Technologies
- Reduce Uncertainty in Multi-Disciplinary Design and Analysis Tools and Processes
- Enable Major Changes in Engine Cycle/Airframe Configurations

# About this work...

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- 3-D URANS simulations performed on highly loaded transonic turbine stage using TURBO (Chen et al.)
- Results are compared to steady calculations as well as experiment (Tallman, Haldemann et al. at OSU GTL).
- Effect of unsteadiness studied
  - shock structure
  - rotor heat flux
  - hub and casing heat flux
  - thermal segregation

# Background

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- HPT flow is unsteady due to wake passage and shock-wake interactions
- Stagnation point on rotor moves away from LE
- Shock moves from rotor crown to leading edge as wake passes (Denos et al., Paniagua et al.)
- Thermal segregation could occur (Shang and Epstein, Ameri et al., Kerrebrock and Mikolajczak)

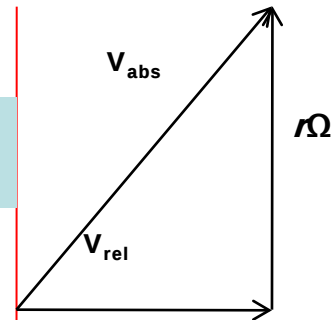
# Segregation



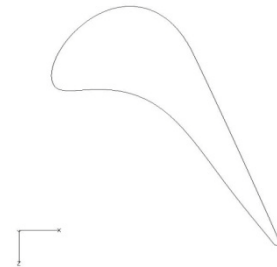
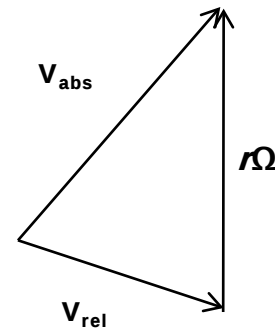
Velocity diagrams in the wake.  
 $T_{\text{time\_average}} < T_{\text{steady}}$

Rotor-Stator interface

Steady



Unsteady wake



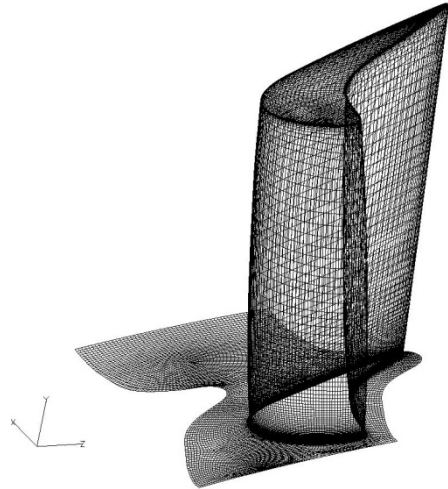
Lower temperature in wake directs cooler gas to suction side

- Upwind Roe scheme with Newton sub iterations
  - No artificial dissipation
- Fully parallelized to use MPI
- Only need one blade per row using Phase lag
- Phase lag - ideal for single-stage simulation (Van Zante et al.)
- Uses low Re  $k-\epsilon$  turbulence model
- Heat transfer simulation made possible by incorporating isothermal BC

## Phase lag

Uses blade count of  
neighboring blade row to  
determine frequency

# The Grid



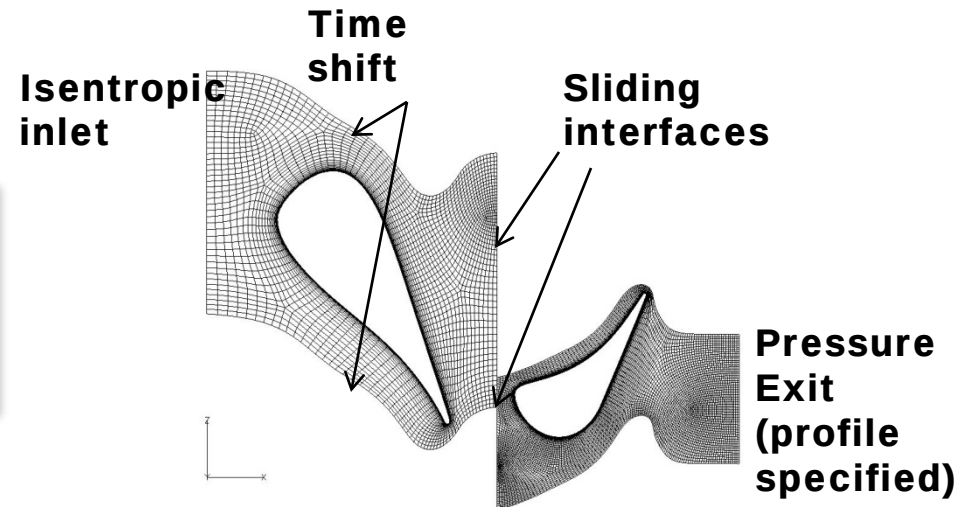
Rotor grid.

## Rotor Features

- 2.1% tip clearance
- blade speed ~ 9000 rpm
- $Re \sim 3 \times 10^6 / m$

**Convergence  
determined using mass  
flow and surface heat  
transfer**

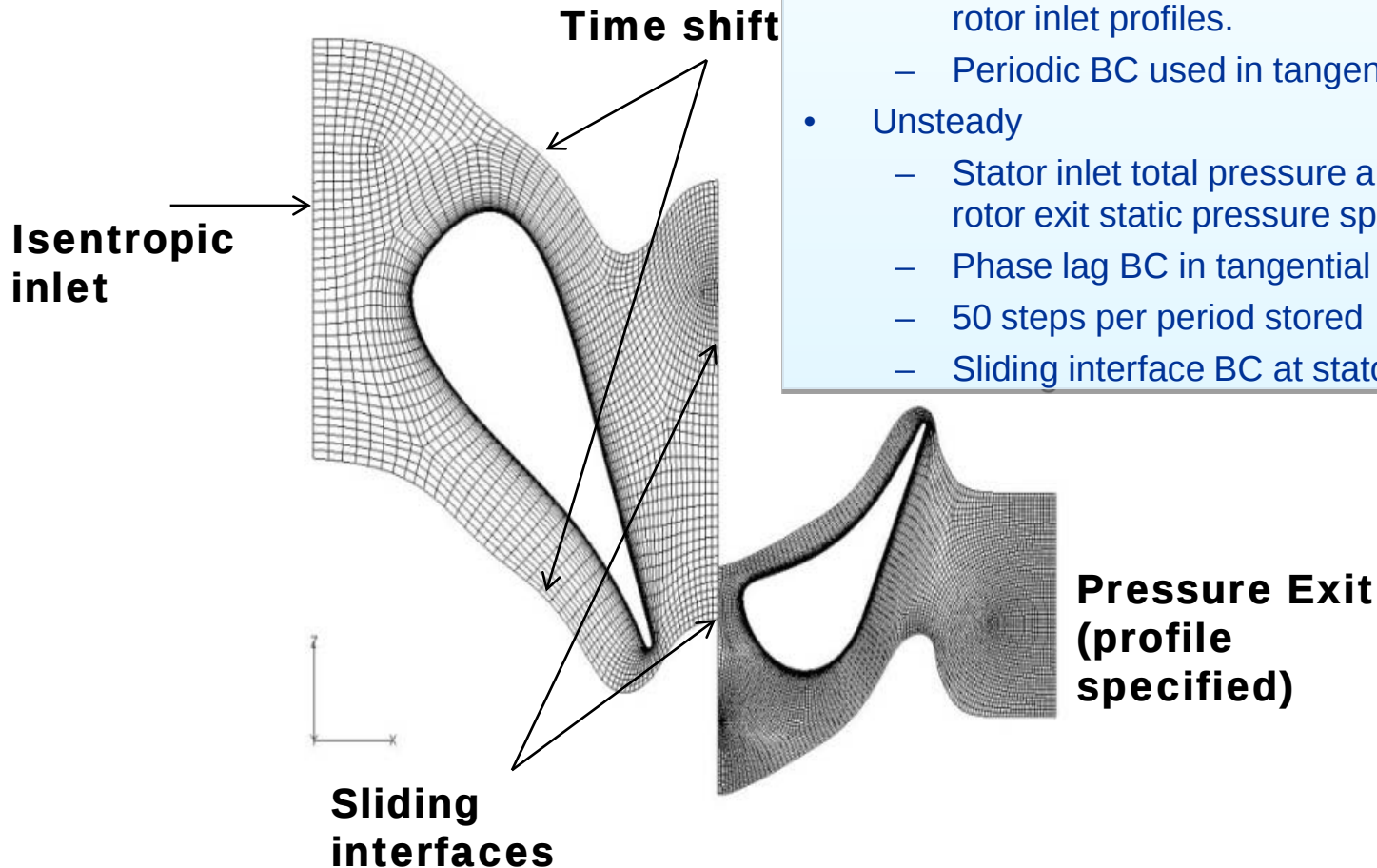
- 38 Stators, 72 rotor blades
- ~2.5M cells (very fine grid)
- $y^+ < 1$  (at first point off wall)
- Coarser grids have shown satisfactory results (e.g. Green et al.)



Relative stator-rotor positioning for unsteady case and boundary conditions



# Simulations



- Steady
  - Used circumferentially averaged vane exit total pressure and temperature profiles as rotor inlet profiles.
  - Periodic BC used in tangential direction
- Unsteady
  - Stator inlet total pressure and temperature, rotor exit static pressure specified
  - Phase lag BC in tangential direction
  - 50 steps per period stored
  - Sliding interface BC at stator-rotor interface



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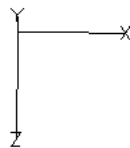
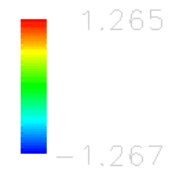
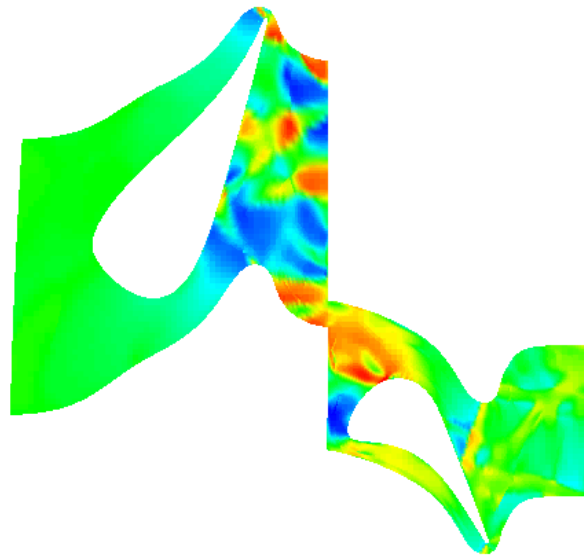
# RESULTS

# Shock Function at 15% span

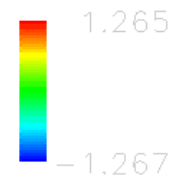
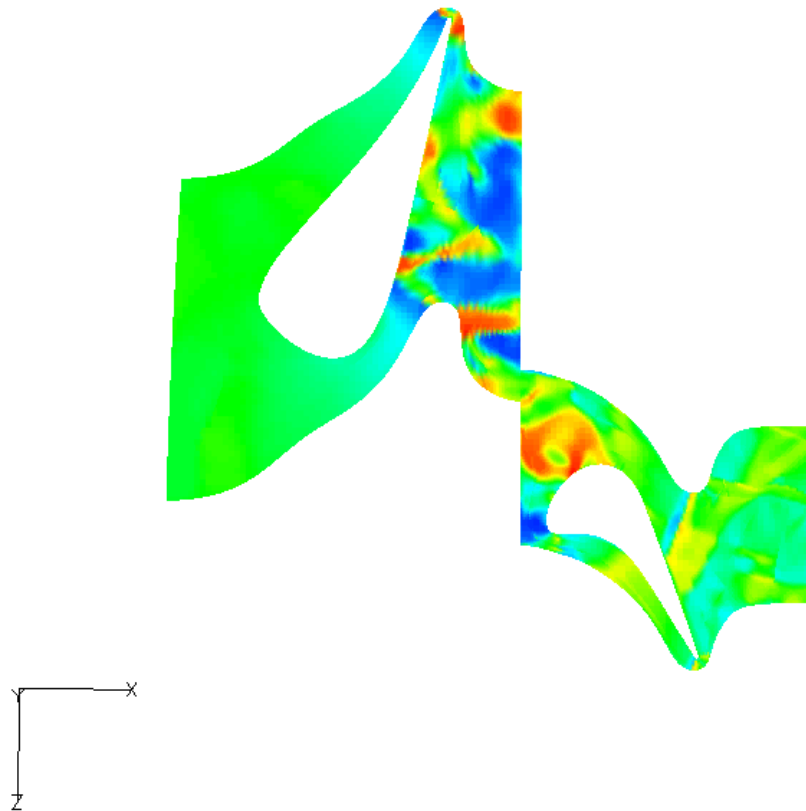
$$SF = \vec{V} \cdot \nabla p$$

- Boundaries of red regions are shocks

(Large pressure gradient is in direction of flow velocity)



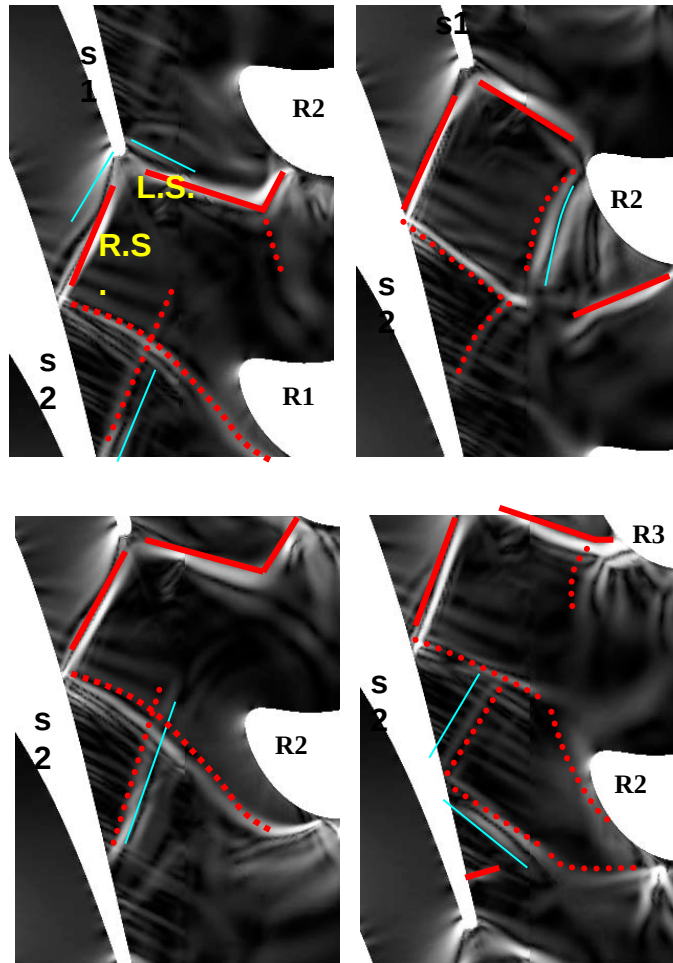
# Shock Function at Mid-Span



**Vane trailing edge  
shock sweeps  
across crown and LE  
of rotor**

**Minimum  
unsteadiness on  
suction side of rotor**

# Comparison with Schlieren



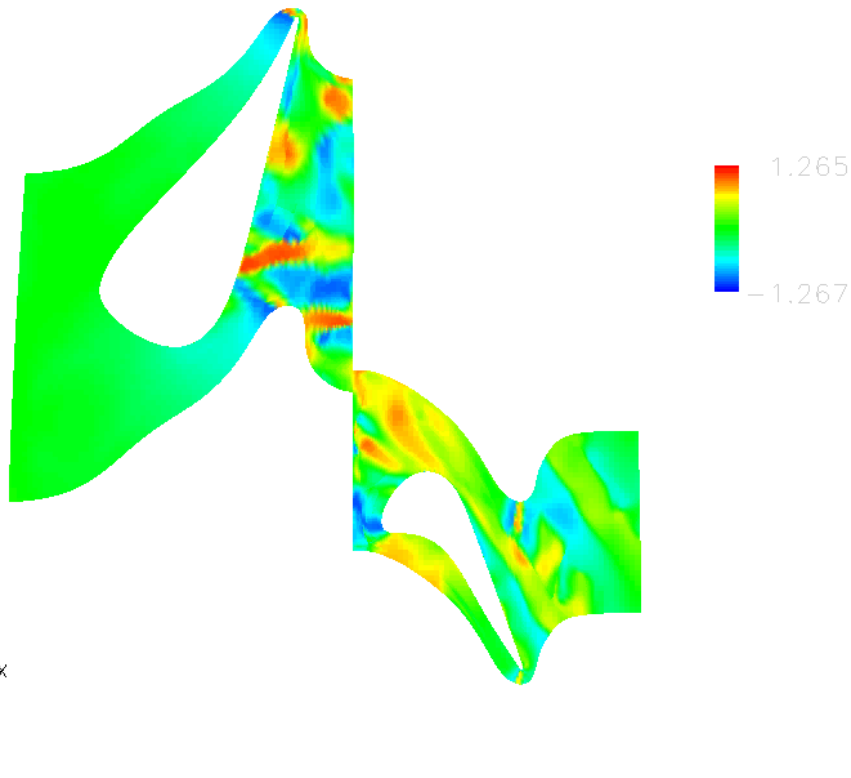
**Dotted lines are  
reflected shocks**

**De la Loma, Paniagua, Verrastro, Adami,  
GT2007-27101**

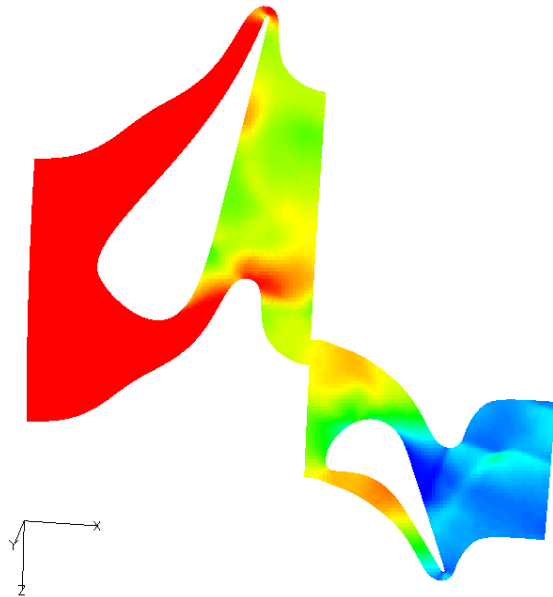
# Shock Function at 90% Span



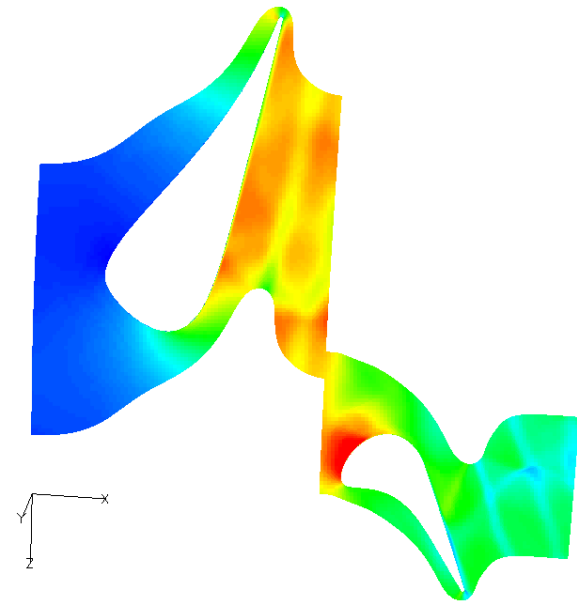
**Vane trailing edge  
shock interacts with  
rotor trailing edge  
shock**



# Mid-span Pressure and Mach Number

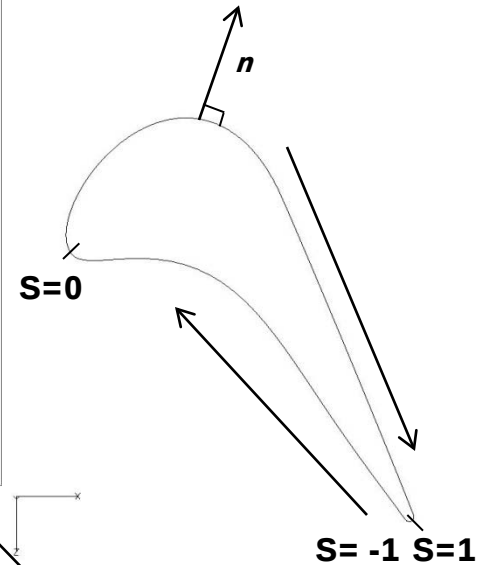
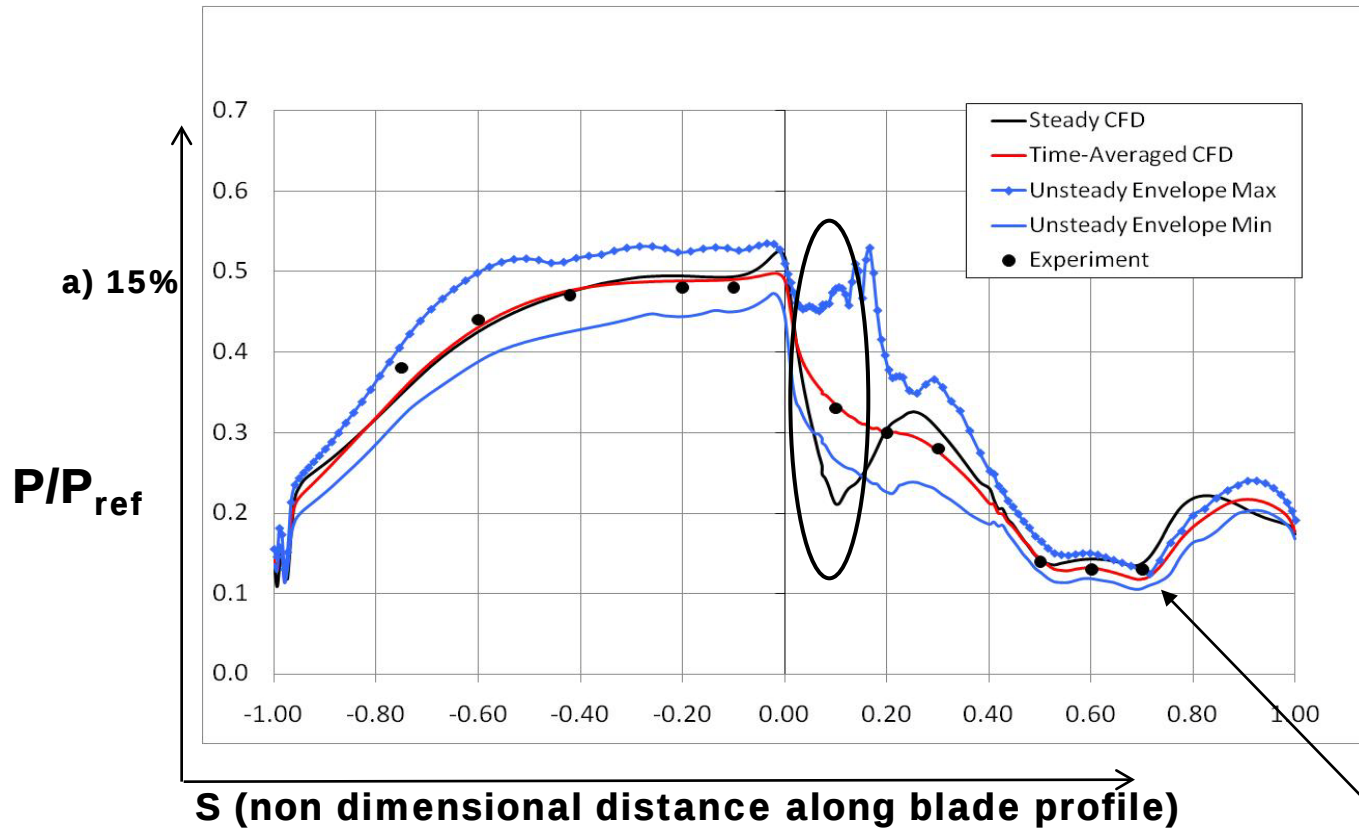


**Pressure**



**Mach no.**

# Pressure Profiles



**Unsteady envelope widest near LE,  
narrows towards TE**

**Rotor  
trailing  
edge shock**

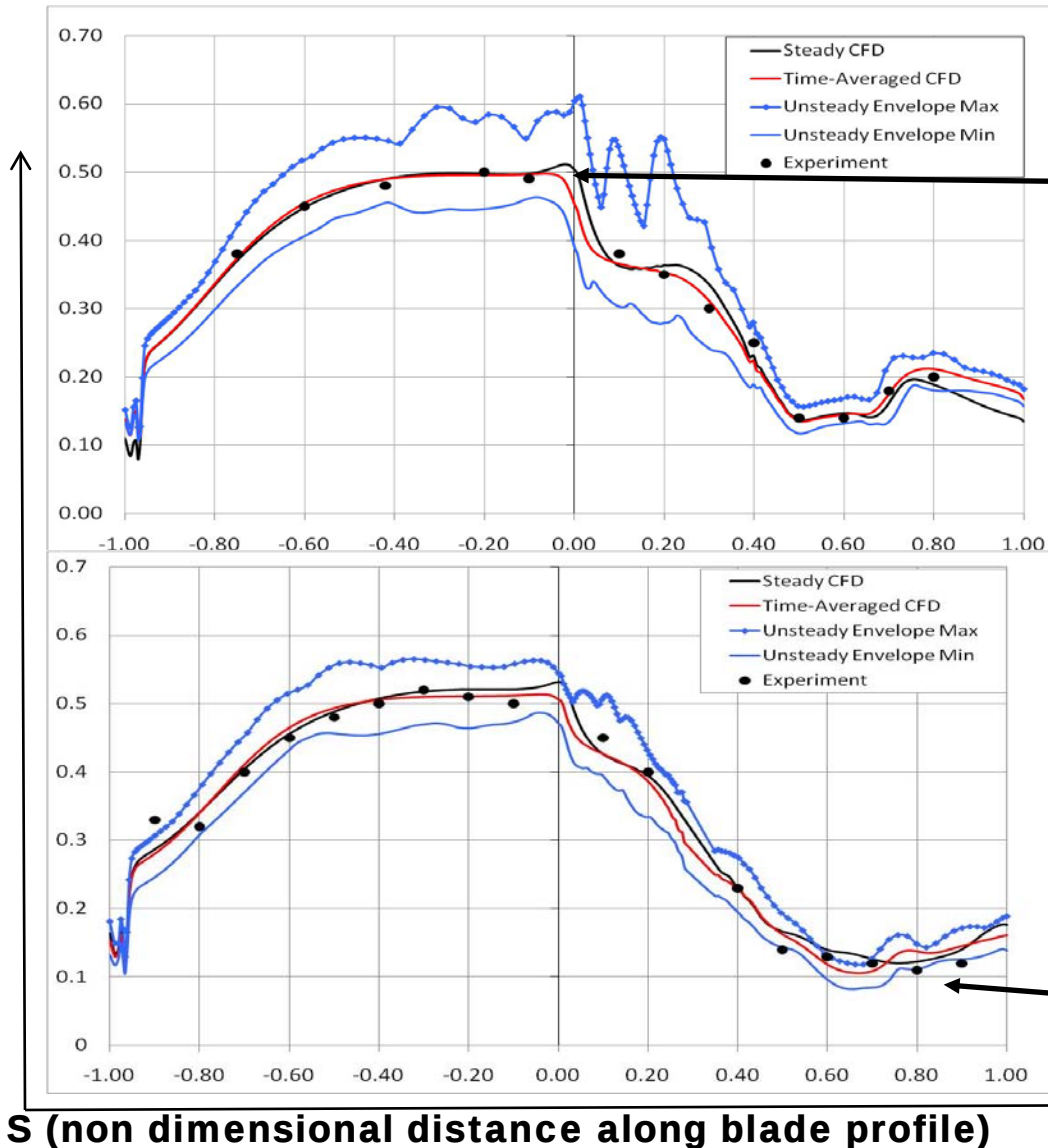


# Pressure Profiles

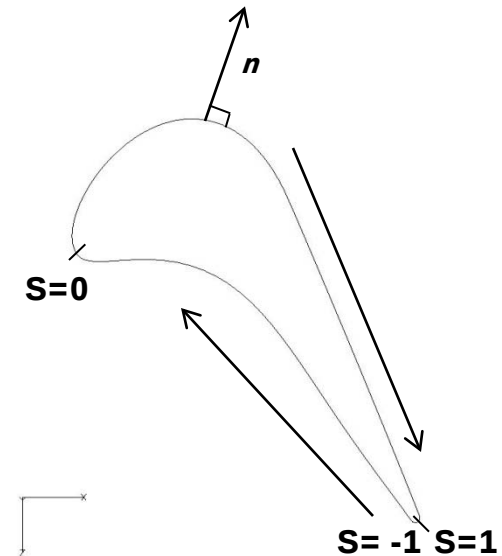
b) 50%

$P/P_{ref}$

c) 90%

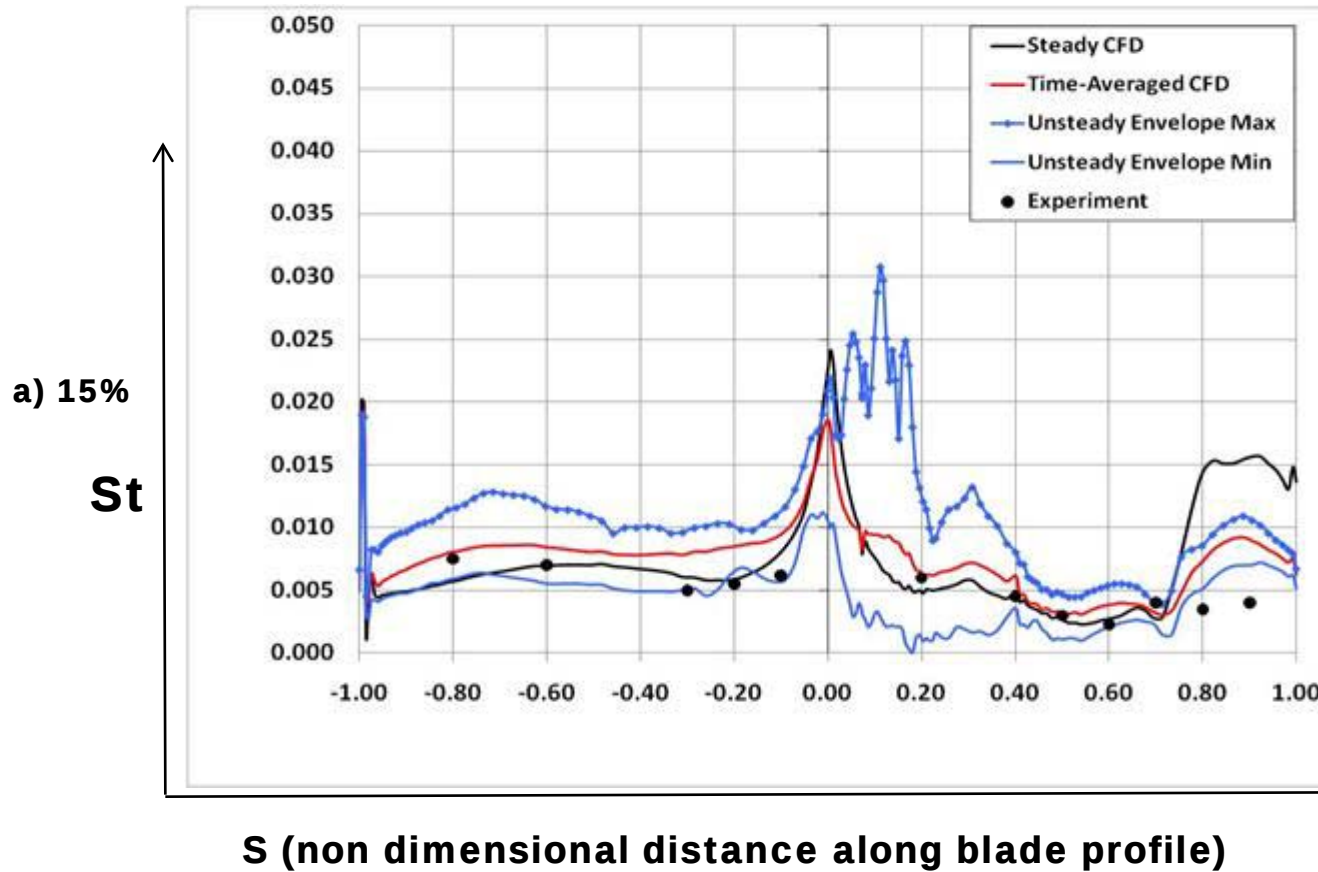


Stag. Point  
moved to  
pressure  
side

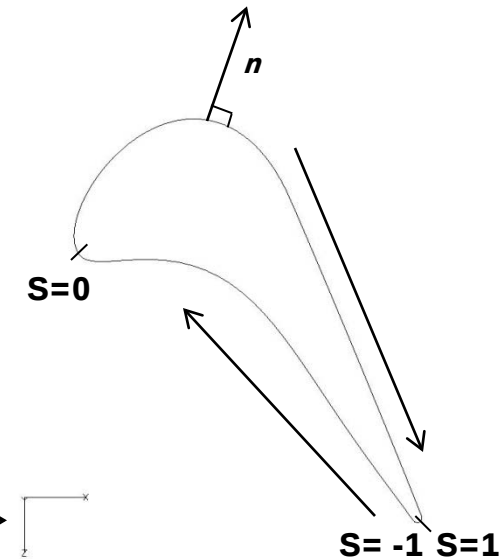


- No shock near  
tip  
- Thin envelope

# Stanton Number Profiles



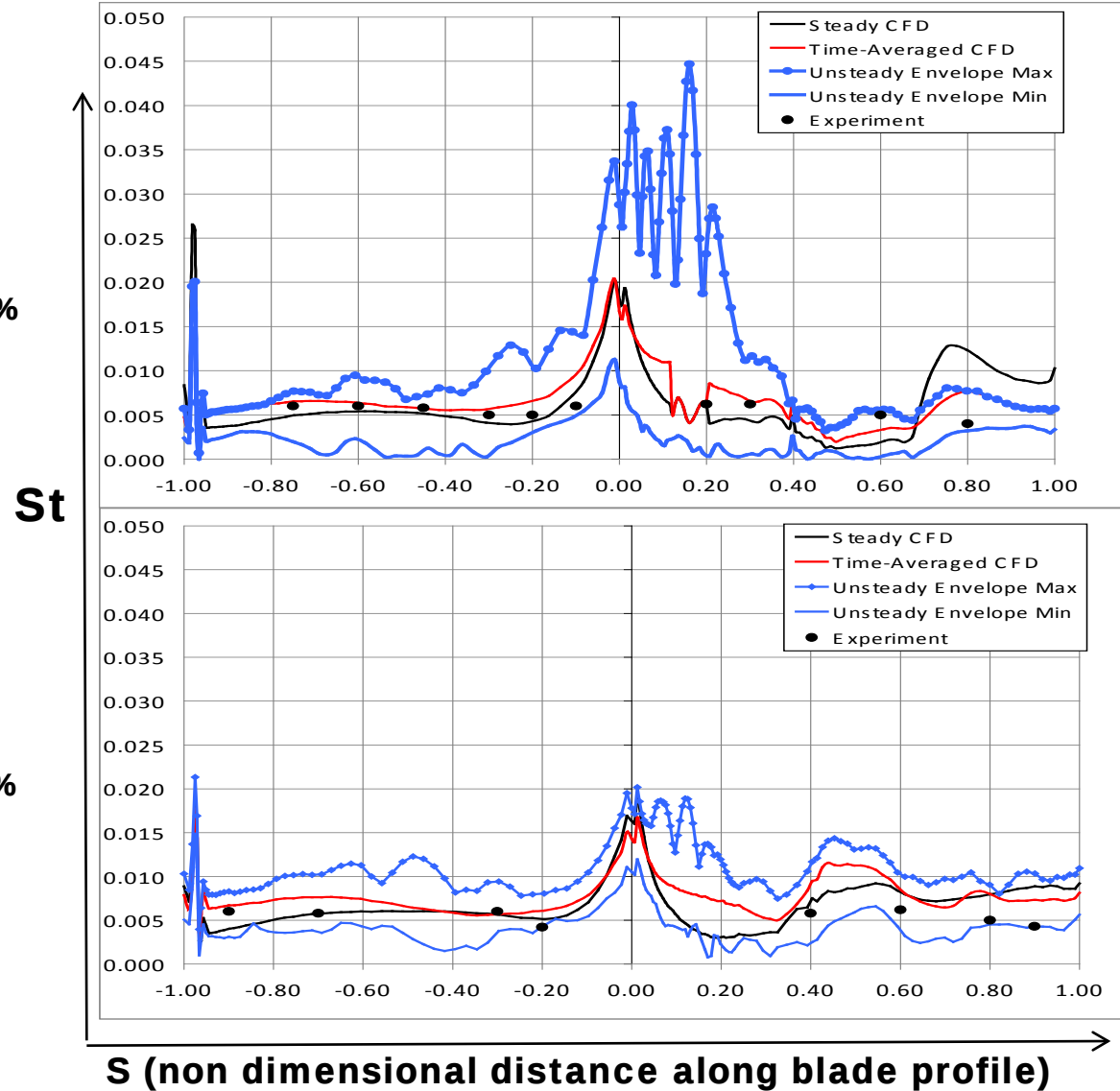
$$St = - \left[ \frac{dT}{dn} \right]_{wall} \cdot \left[ \frac{\mu_{wall}}{(\rho V)_{inlet}} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{Re_{ref} \cdot Pr}$$



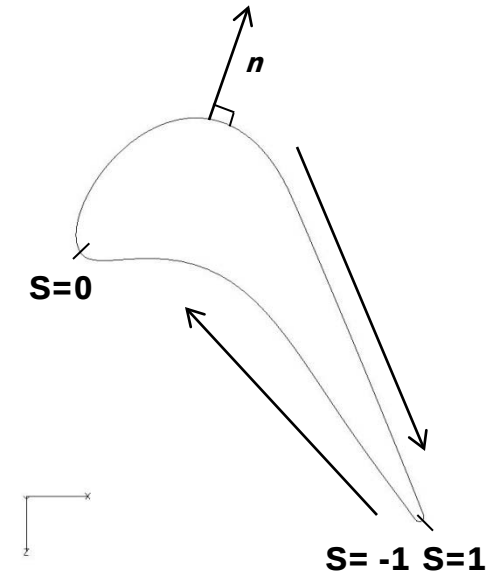
# Stanton Number Profiles



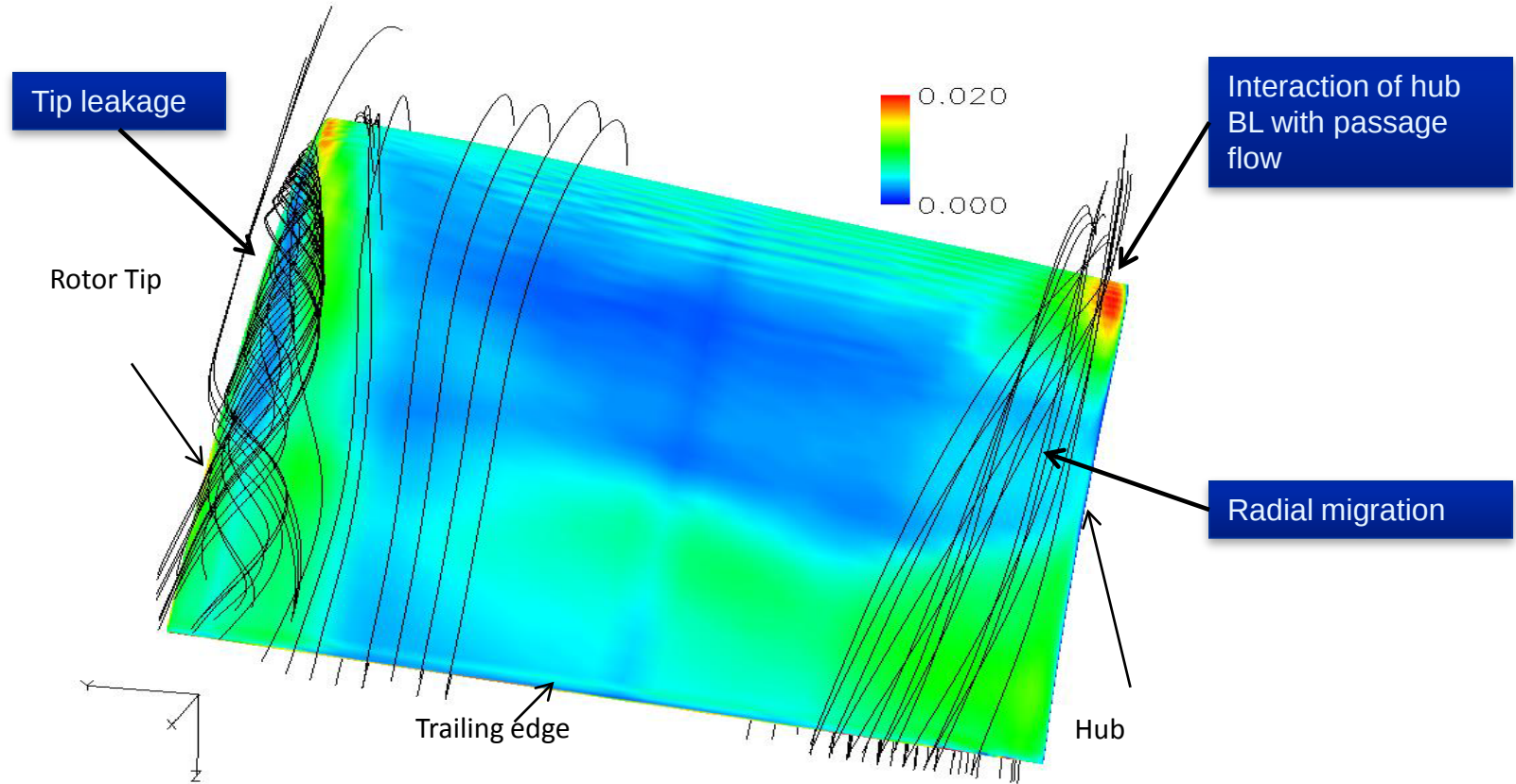
b) 50%



$$St = - \left[ \frac{dT}{dn} \right]_{wall} \left[ \frac{\mu_{wall}}{(\rho V)_{inlet}} \right] \frac{1}{Re_{ref} \cdot Pr}$$

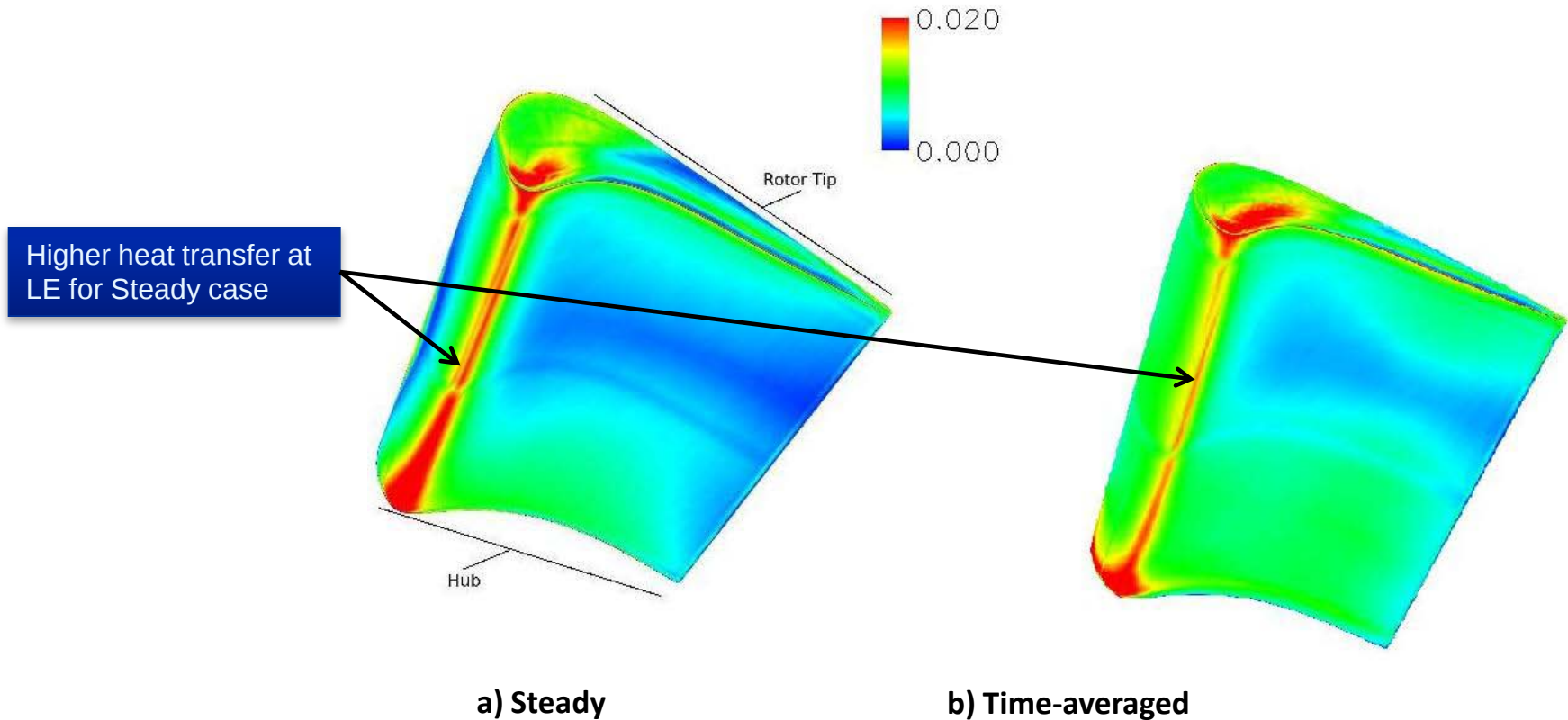


# Streamlines



**Streamlines of relative velocity over suction side of rotor blade with rotor blade showing Stanton number contours.**

# Surface Heat Flux

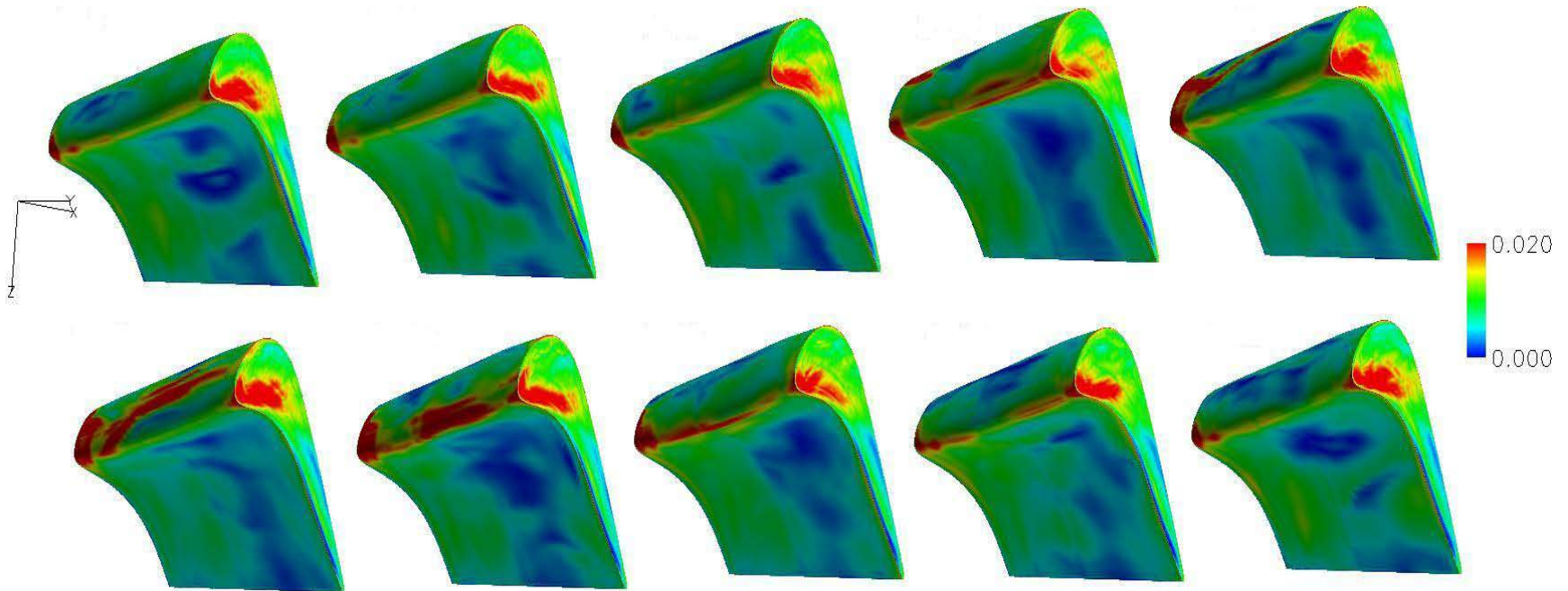


Comparison between steady and time-averaged Stanton number distribution on rotor blade pressure side.

# Snapshots of Unsteady Heat Flux



time →





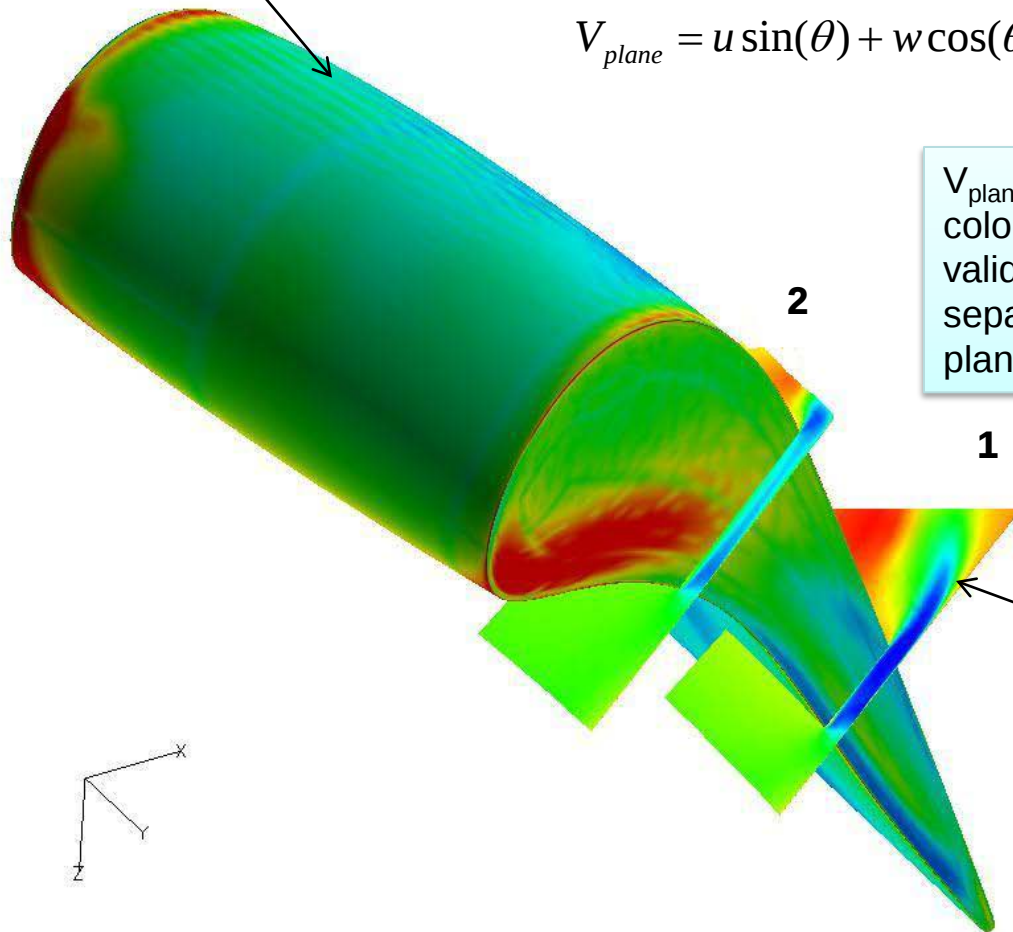
# In the Tip Gap

Stanton number on blade

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{u}{w}\right)$$

$$\text{Isosurface} : x - z \tan(\theta) = c$$

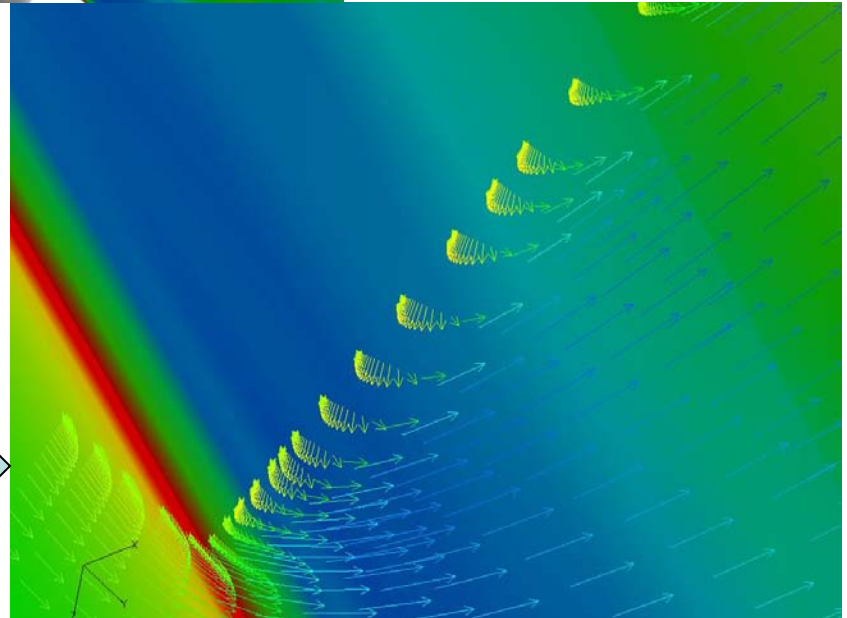
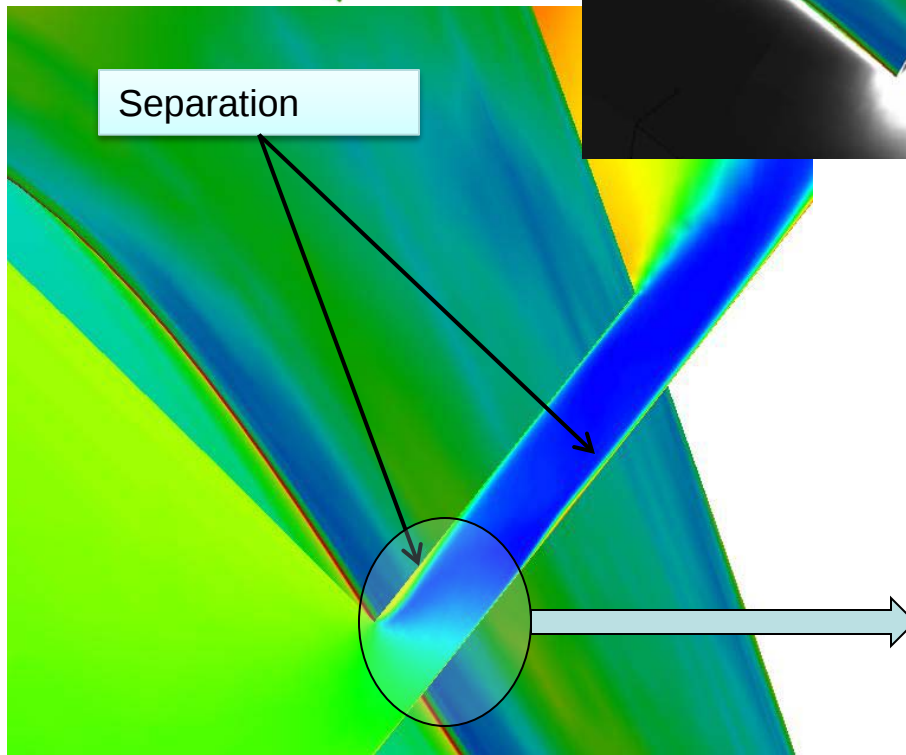
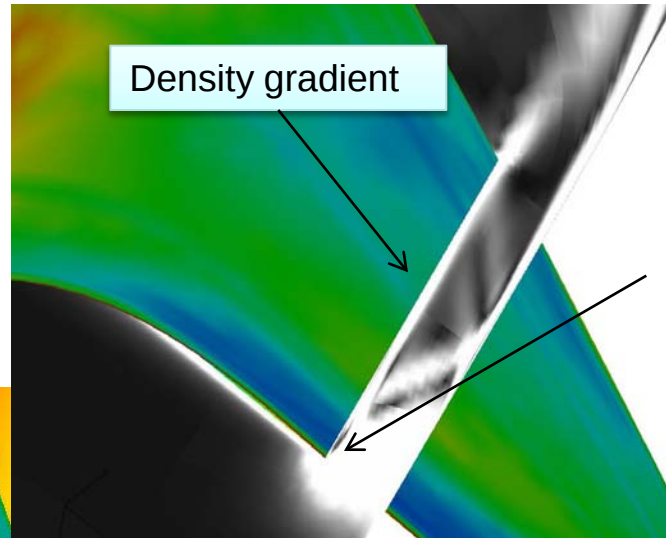
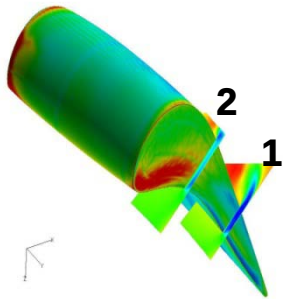
$$V_{\text{plane}} = u \sin(\theta) + w \cos(\theta)$$



$V_{\text{plane}}$  is positive (yellow through red colors) if flow is separated. This is only valid in the tip gap, where flow separation can be measured in the z-x plane

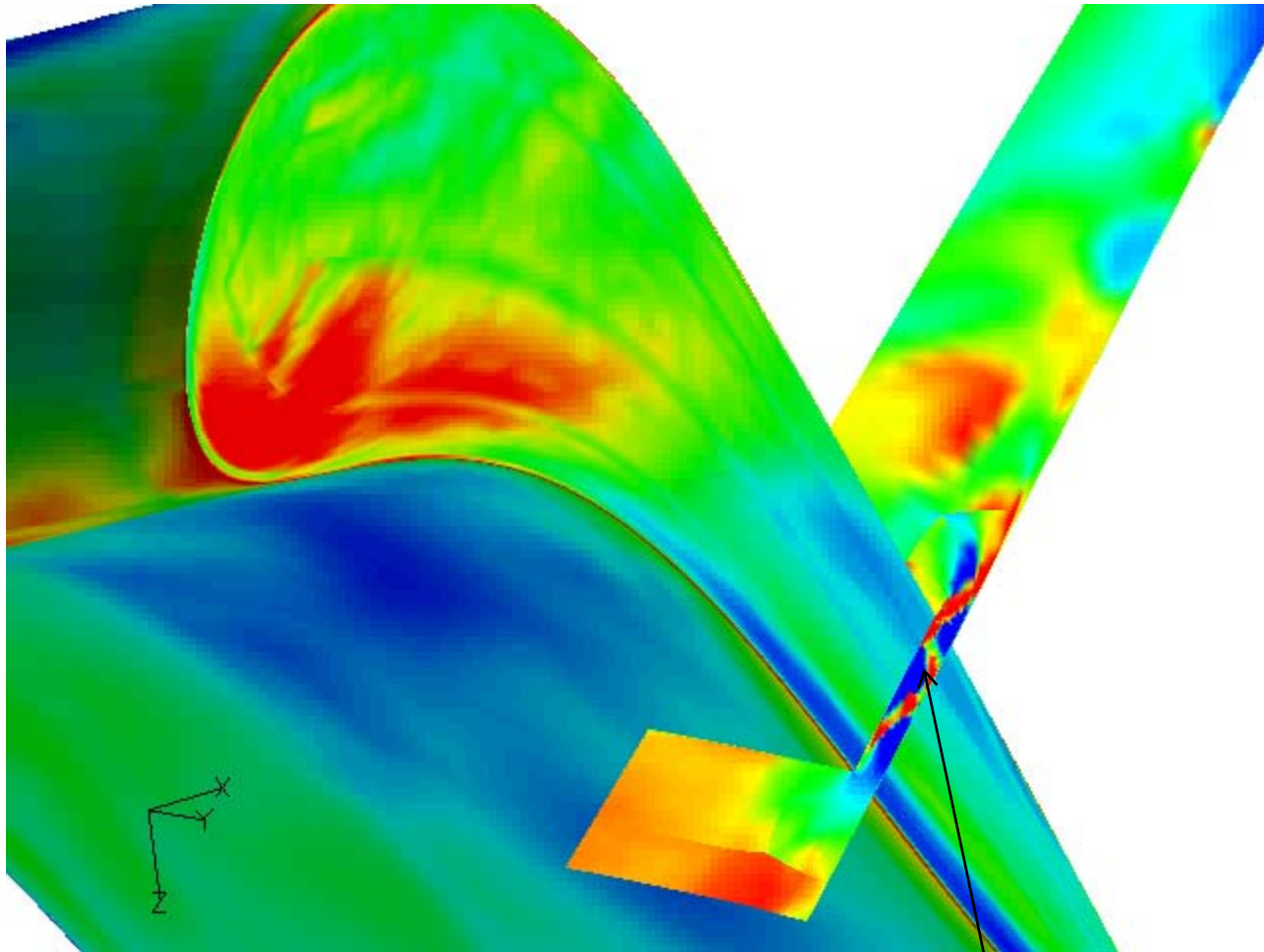
$V_{\text{plane}}$  on Iso planes of  $c$

# In the Tip Gap – Plane 1





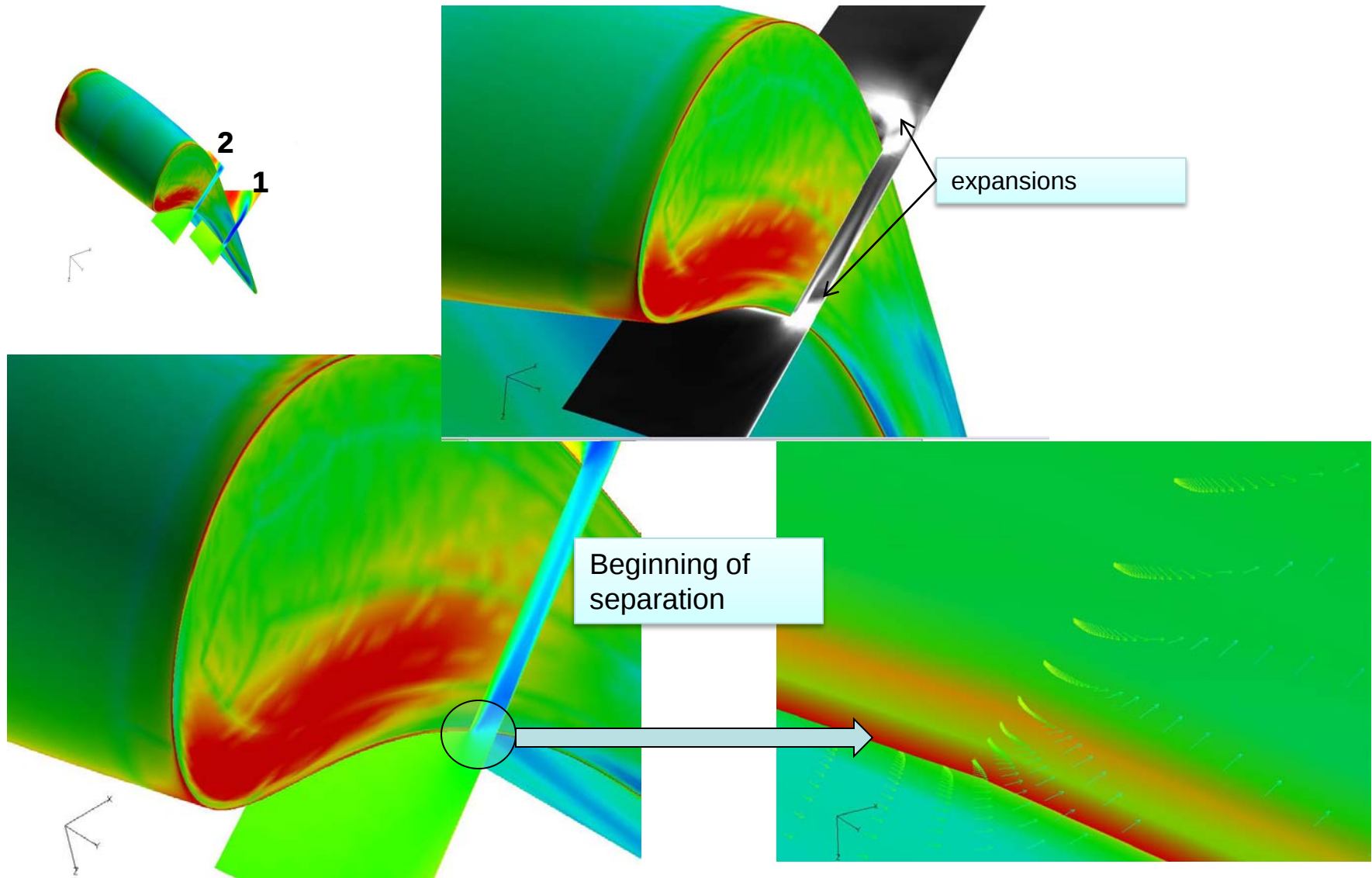
# In the Tip Gap – Plane 1 - Unsteady



Shock function

tip\_shock3.avi

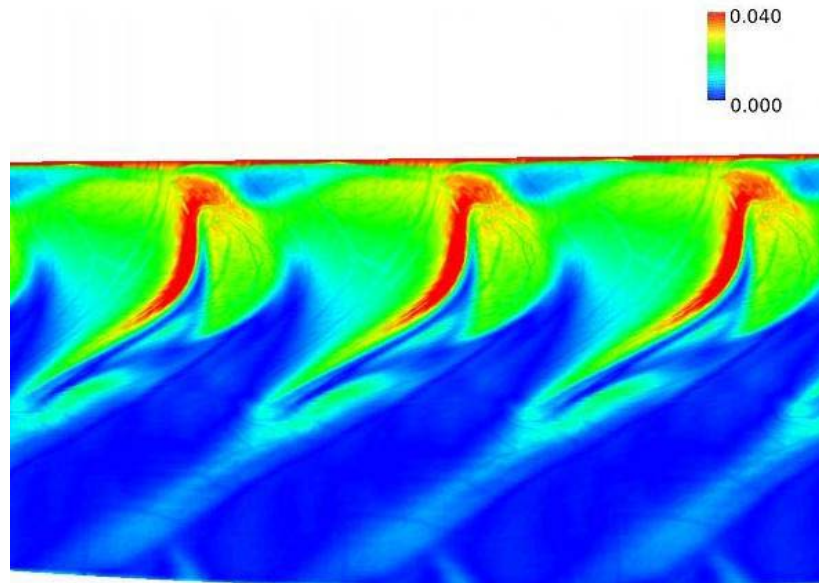
# In the Tip Gap – Plane 2



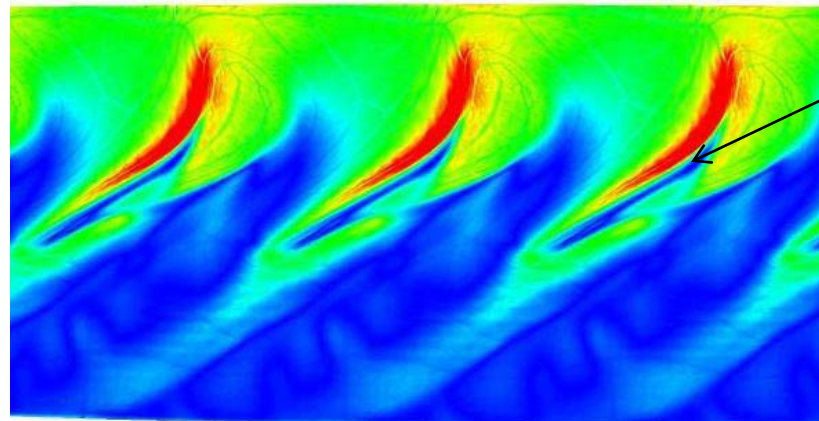
# Casing Heat Transfer



**Steady**

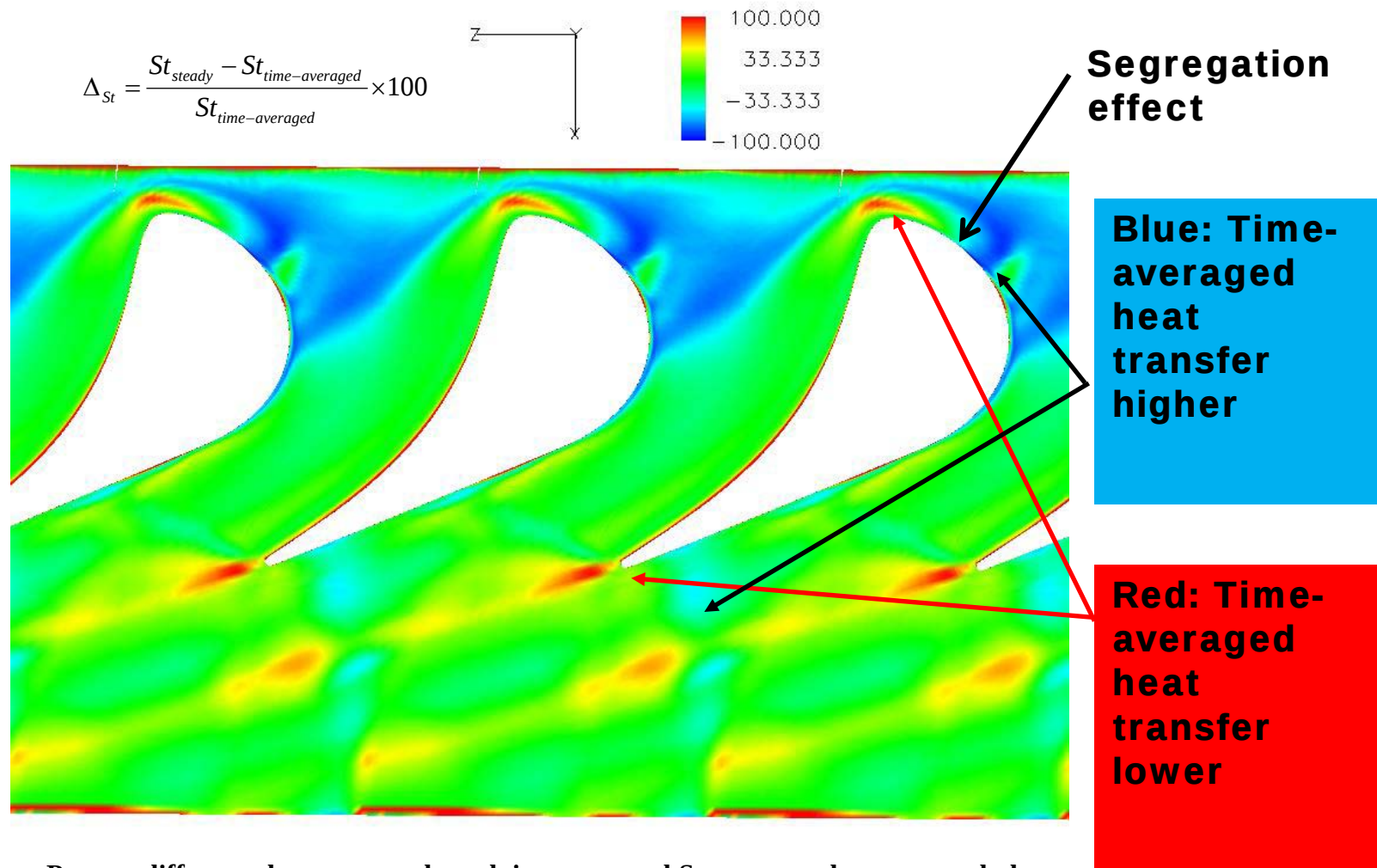


**Time-averaged**



Corresponds to separation

# Hub Heat Transfer



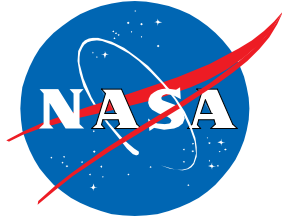
Percent difference between steady and time-averaged Stanton number on rotor hub.



# Conclusions

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- Over most of blade surface, steady simulation is accurate
- Thermal wake causes unsteady heat transfer over most of the blade to be higher than steady heat transfer except at leading edge.
- At the leading edge the effect of unsteadiness is most prominent
- Thermal redistribution was observed at the hub and on the blade surface
- Pressure and heat transfer distribution over blade is highly 3D

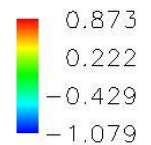
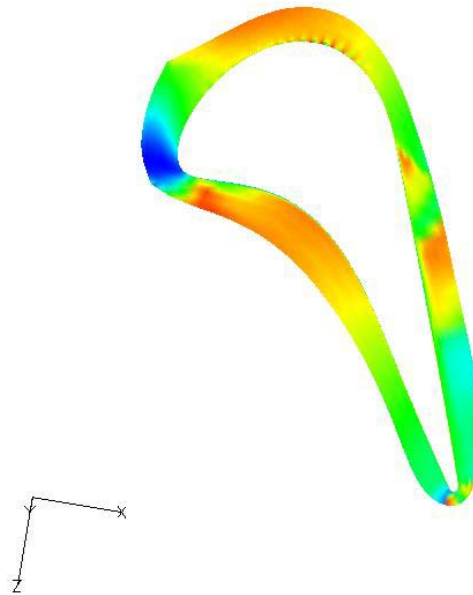
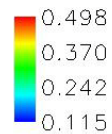
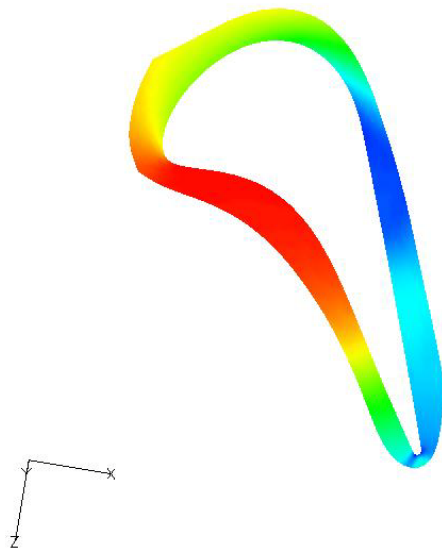




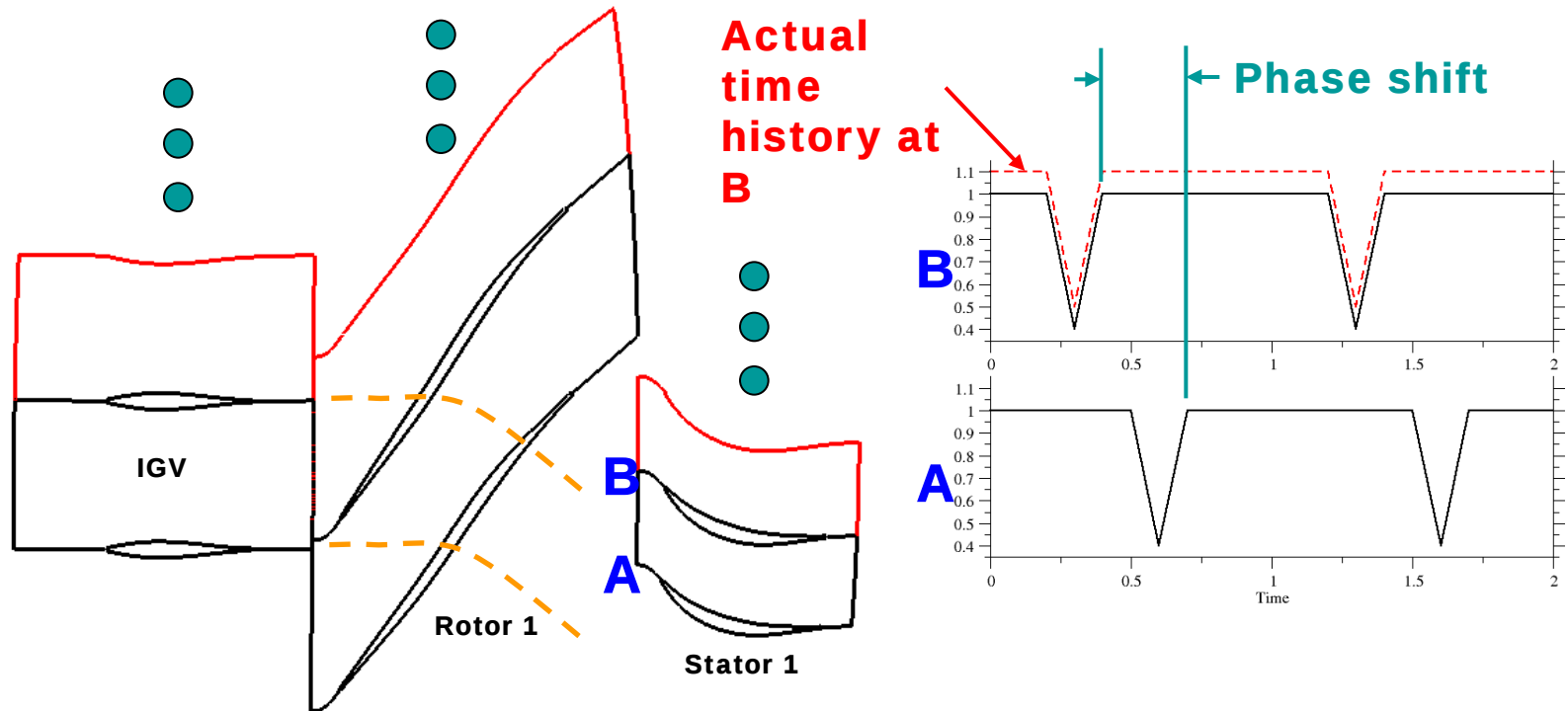
# Backup slides



# Time averaged P and Shock @ 50% span

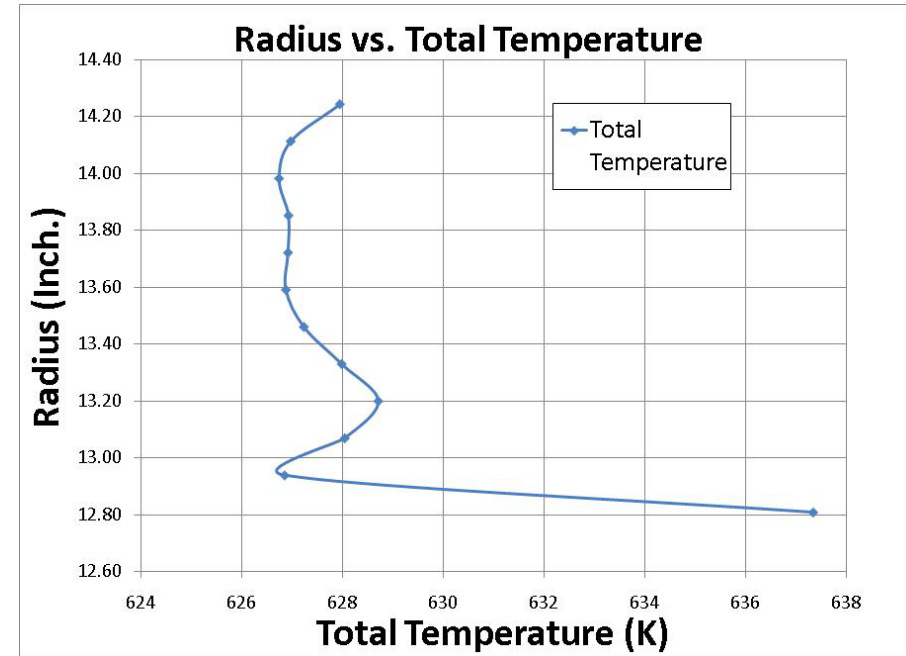
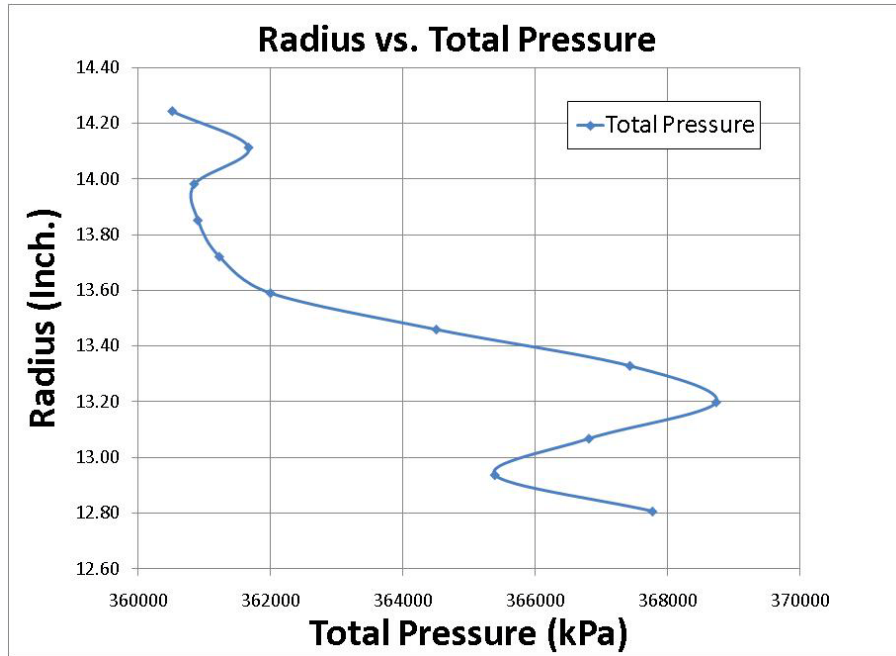


# The phase lag boundary condition for more than two blade rows



- In this example, adding the IGV wakes creates circumferential non-uniformities at the entrance to stator 1.
- At 'B' the phase lag boundary condition will apply the time history of 'A' with a phase shift but not the necessary change in the mean.
- This results in a spatial filtering of information for stator-stator (and rotor-rotor) interactions.

# Pressure and Temperature Profile at Interface



# Stanton No. Derivation



$$St = \frac{h}{c_p \cdot \rho \cdot V} \quad \text{since } h = \frac{q_{wall}}{T_{wall} - T_{ref}}, \text{ and knowing } \dot{m} = \rho \cdot A \cdot V$$

$$St = \frac{q_{wall}}{\left(\frac{\dot{m}}{A}\right) \cdot c_p \cdot [T_{wall} - T_{ref}]}$$

$$St = \frac{1}{\rho \cdot V \cdot C_p} \cdot \frac{-k \cdot \frac{dT}{dn}|_{wall}}{T_{wall} - T_{ref}} \quad \text{knowing:}$$

$$Pr = \frac{\mu_{wall} \cdot C_p}{k}$$

$$\mu_{wall} = \frac{Pr \cdot k}{C_p}$$

$$\mu_{wall} = \rho_{wall} \cdot \nu_{wall}$$

multiply and divide by  $\mu_{wall}$  and simplify to obtain:

$$St = \frac{-\frac{dT}{dn}|_{wall}}{T_{wall} - T_{ref}} \cdot \frac{\mu_{wall}}{\rho \cdot V} \cdot \frac{1}{Pr}$$

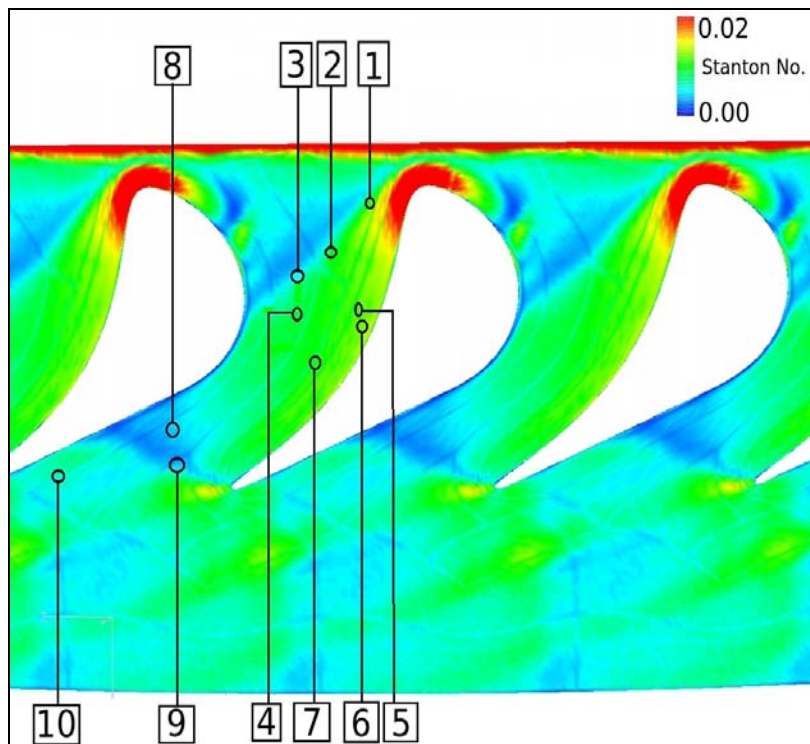
An expression in nondimensional terms:

$$St = - \left[ \frac{\frac{dT}{dn}|_{wall}}{\bar{T}_{wall} - \bar{T}_{ref}} \right] \cdot \left[ \frac{\bar{\mu}_{wall}}{\bar{\rho} \cdot \bar{V}} \right] \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{Pr} \right] \cdot \left[ \frac{\mu_{ref}}{\rho_{ref} x_{ref} a_0} \right]$$

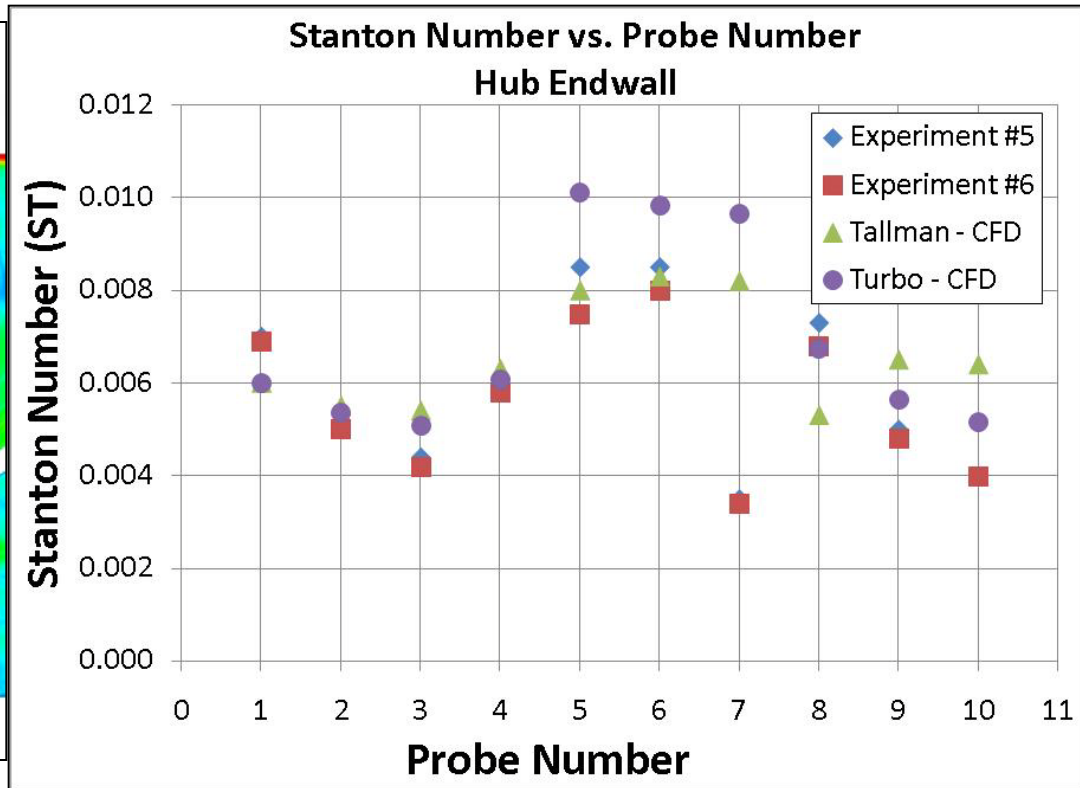
# Rotor Hub Surface Heat Transfer - Steady



## TURBO predictions



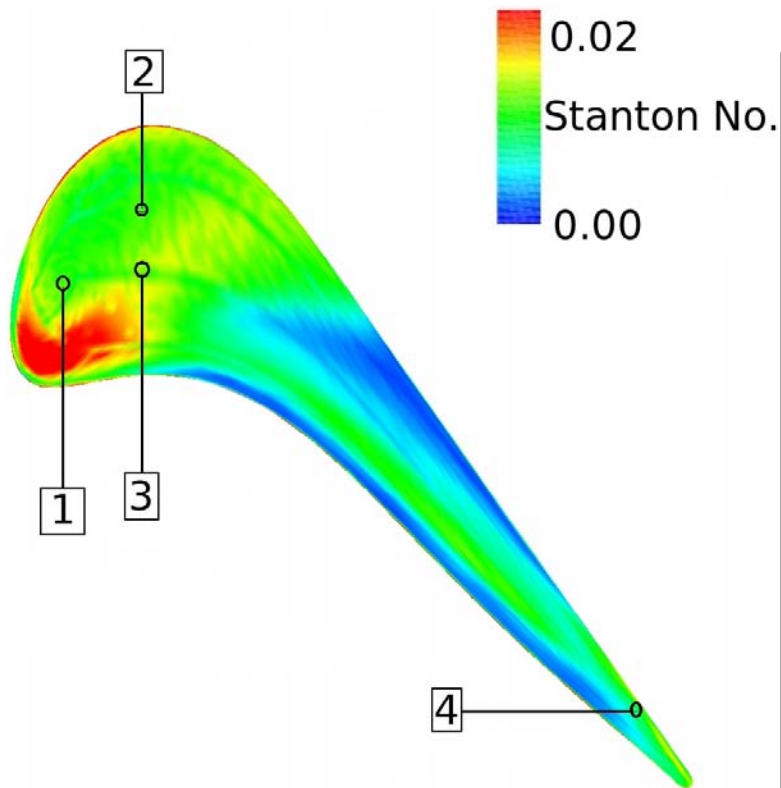
## Stanton No. Comparisons



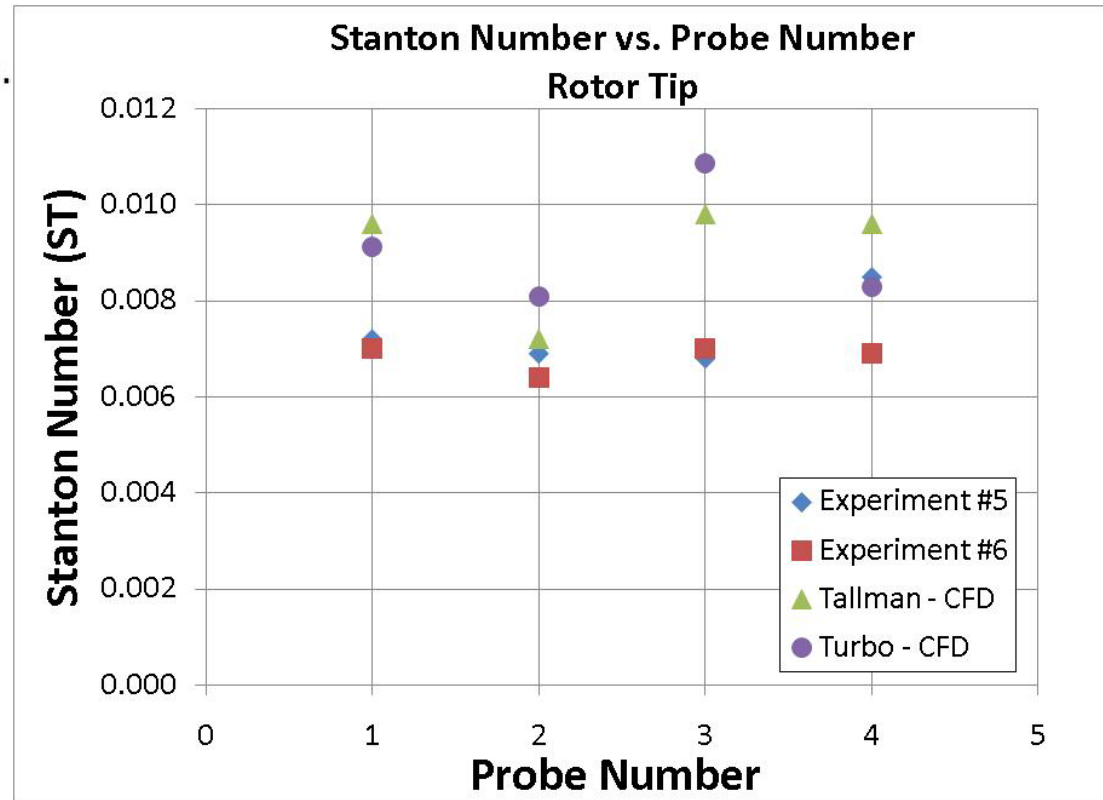
# Rotor Tip Heat Transfer – Steady



## TURBO predictions



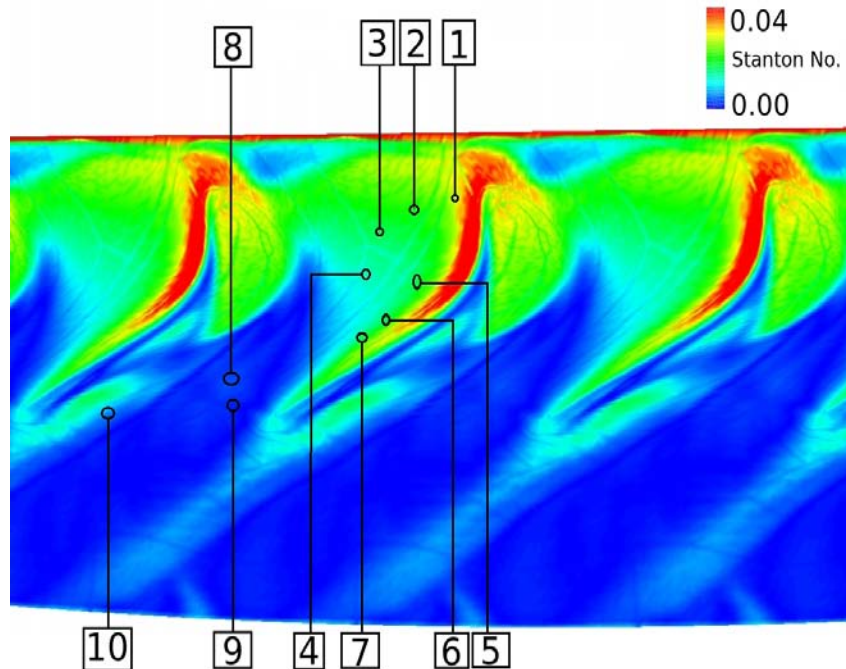
## Stanton No. Comparisons



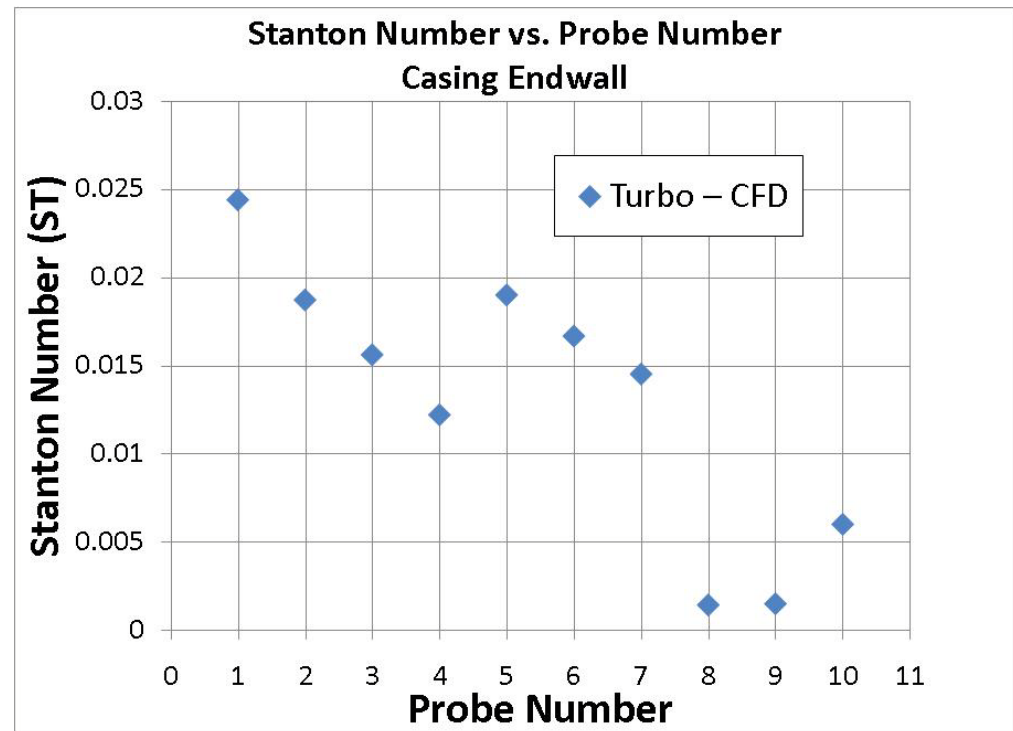
# Rotor Casing Surface Heat Transfer - Steady



## TURBO predictions



No data available for comparison





# Statistics – Steady



| Results                         | TURBO vs. Tacoma | TURBO vs. Experimental      |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Vane Surface Pressure           | Good             | Good                        |
| Vane Surface Heat Transfer      | Good             | Good                        |
| Blade Surface Pressure          | Good             | Good                        |
| Blade Surface Heat Transfer     | Fair             | 16.3% difference (max: 25%) |
| Rotor Hub Surface Heat Transfer | 13.4% difference | 13.1% greater               |
| Rotor Tip Heat Transfer         | 10.5% difference | 15.5% greater               |
|                                 | Iterations       | Estimated CPU Time          |
| Stator                          | 30,000           | 60 Hours                    |
| Rotor                           | 40,000           | 120 Hours                   |